

THE ARIZONA CHAMPION.

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A SUMMER MORNING.

The day-kings rise from his bed
In the blushing eastern sky,
The trembling stars from heaven have fled,
In grief the night-queen hides her head,
Her hour has come to die.

The sleepy flowers open their eyes,
And nod their dew-crowned heads,
While fragrance from their centers rise,
Like breath of far-off Paradise,
O'er sleeping angel's beds.

The startled elves are hid away
In depths of forget green,
To weave bright-colored dreams all day,
In wildflower's cups where they must stay,
'Till moonlight's mystic gleam.

Bright song-birds fill the clear, sweet air
With music glad and free,
And squirrels darting here and there,
Seem saying, "Who so free from care,
So blithe and gay as we?"

The fragrant scent of new-mown hay,
The sparkle of the stream,
The joyous sounds of the new day,
Make careworn hearts grow light and gay,
And heaven nearer seem.

ONE DAY'S FISHING.

One morning when spring was in their teens—
A morn to a poet's wishing,
All tinted in delicate pinks and greens,
Miss Beasie and I went fishing.

In my rough and easy clothes,
With my face at the sunshine's mercy;
She with her hat tipped down to her nose,
And her nose tipped—vice versa.

I with my rod, my reel and my hooks,
And a hamper for luncheon recesses;
She with the bait of her comely looks,
And the sedition of her golden tresses.

So we sat down on the sunny dais,
Where the white pond-lilies teeter,
And I went fishing like quaint old Ike,
And she like Simon Peter.

All the noon I lay in the light of her eyes,
And dreamily watched and waited;
But the fish were cunning, and would not rise,
And the baiter alone was baited.

And when the time for departure came,
The bag was as flat as a flounder,
And Beasie had neatly looked the game—
A hundred-and-eighty-pounder.

ONE NIG T'S EXPERIENCE.

BY JULIA ALFORD.

"Are you quite sure you will not be
afraid, Maude? Remember, we will
not be home till late," said Mrs. Ken-
net, bestowing an anxious glance upon
the face of her beautiful daughter, who
stood at the wicket gate watching the
departure of her parents upon a trip to
town.

"Very sure, mamma darling," an-
swered Maude, smilingly.

Maude had spoken with a great deal
of assurance, for though an only child,
and thirteen years of age, she had
never spent an hour alone, and imag-
ined innumerable delights from having
the entire house and premises to her-
self, and watched the hired men depart
for their homes with secret satisfaction.

"Now for a good time!" she said,
aloud.

And procuring her favorite book, she
threw herself upon the sofa and com-
menced reading.

But, some way, the silence was
strangely oppressive, and the ticking
of the clock sounded so loud and solemn
that at last she could endure the house
no longer.

And though it lacked a full hour of
"chore time," she arose and, donning
her mob-cap of dotted cambric, and her
immense white apron, and rolling her
sleeves above the dimpled elbows, she
proceeded to the barn, and dispensed
the evening meal to the chickens,
calves and pigs, much to their sur-
prise, and managed to while away the
lagging minutes till at last the
lengthening shadows and chill night air
warned her of approachable darkness.

And with a parting caress to the sleek
old cattle, she lifted her pails of foam-
ing milk and proceeded to the cellar—
a sort of cave in the back yard.

"It is not so pleasant to be alone,
after all," she soliloquized; "and I, for
one, fail to see the pleasures of soli-
tude."

And it was with lagging step that she
approached the house, looking so
strange without the busy, bustling form
and cheery face of mamma.

"Good-evening, miss!" said a cheery
voice.

And glancing toward the sound,
Maude beheld a gentleman, young and
handsome, standing within the low,
deep porch.

"I began to think the house de-
serted," he continued.

And Maude blushed vividly, trying to
remove the really bewitching mob-cap,
and thereby ruffling her intensely
auburn curls, and altogether presenting
a truly lovely picture of maiden coyish-
ness.

But toilet and uncovered arms were
speedily forgotten, as she listened to the
next remark of the stranger.

"Excuse me, Miss Kennet, but I
have an unpleasant errand to perform.
I chanced to overhear a plan whereby
it is proposed to rob this house to-
night, in the absence of your father."

"Who are you, sir? And how do
you know that papa is not at home?"
cried Maude, her blue eyes fairly
black with excitement.

The stranger's handsome face flushed
at the implied doubt of his honesty,
but he replied very calmly:

"I was hunting, and had stopped be-
hind a clump of willows down by the
creek, to wait for a flock of ducks to fly
up, when two men with paint-buckets
and brushes, approached from this di-
rection, and I plainly overheard the
discussion."

"It must be those men who were
painting here to-day," said Maude, a
perceptible change in her voice. "But
to whom am I indebted for this kindly
warning?" she asked.

"I am Mr. Norris," said the stranger,
removing his hat, "your neighbor.
Perhaps you have noticed the chim-
neys of my residence across the creek."

Maude did not reply for several
minutes, and such a strange light shone
from her eyes that the gentleman gazed
at her in surprise.

"I hope you will allow me to be of

service to you," he said, deprecatingly.

And as if aroused to a sense of propriety, Maude replied graciously but
with perceptible constraint, for the re-
membrance of a little old man, who
called upon her father that very morn-
ing, had tended to confuse her. He
rode a gray pony, and his errand con-
cerned a "line fence."

"I am Mr. Norris," said the old
man, "your neighbor." And pointing
to the chimneys of the large stone
house which showed above the hill, he
added: "That's my place."

Almost the exact words of this hand-
some young stranger who had called
upon so strange—not say suspicious—
an errand.

No wonder Maude was confused, and
as she thought the matter over, her
fear of this gentlemanly informant who
offered his services so politely became
almost impossible to conceal.

But Maude Kennet was a brave girl,
and at once commenced planning to
outwit this smiling impostor.

"I think your best plan would be to
collect everything of value and conceal
it securely," said he, "and then we will
watch for the burglars and outwit them,
if possible, capture them."

Maude pretended to fall in with his
ideas, and at once left the room.

"Kind Father, help me!" she mur-
mured.

And after a moment's consideration,
she took a common market-basket, and
flying from cabinet to bureau, and from
bureau to boxes, she gathered the
money—about four hundred dollars—
the silver and the few jewels, and
throwing a towel over them, deter-
mined to make her escape, if possible.

But she had barely reached the door,
when the stranger whom she had left
sitting upon the front porch entered
the room.

"It will never do for you to leave the
house," he said, in a whisper, and
somewhat sternly; "for it is their plan
to come early, and it is getting so dark
that they are probably about the prem-
ises even now."

Maude trembled like an aspen leaf.
The loss of that money meant hard
times for the winter, and she resolved
to fight it.

But she realized her weakness, and
looked at the tall stranger, almost won-
dering why he did not step forward and
take the basket from her hands.

"Please trust me, young lady!" he
said, as if reading her thoughts.

And for a moment Maude felt like do-
ing so. But reason came to her res-
cue, and at the same moment her eye
lighted upon the trap-door covering an
empty cistern of about twelve feet in
depth, and a desperate resolve took
possession of her.

"I'll drop the basket in the cistern,"
she said, in a trembling whisper; "it
is dry."

To her surprise, the stranger at once
stepped to the trap-door, and covered
it with the trap-door, and peered into
the yawning abyss.

"Now is my time," said Maude, un-
der breath.

And stepping behind him, she sum-
moned every particle of strength and
fortitude in her possession, and with a
tremendous push, sent him tumbling
forward.

He tried to clutch the opposite edge, but
with a heartlessness born of her frenzy,
she slammed the door upon his fingers,
and heard him drop to the bottom with
the feeling with which a general sur-
veys a battle-field strewn with the
bodies of the enemy.

Then dragging a heavy box and plac-
ing over the door, she began to feel the
reaction of nervous excitement, and
woman-fashion, would have taken re-
fuge in fainting, had not a new source
of excitement immediately followed.

She had scarcely time to think of the
situation, when a low rap at the front
door sent the blood bounding again,
and with her precious basket she
stepped into the closet under the stairs,
and awaited further developments.

She did not wait long. To her sur-
prise, she heard a key fitted to the
door, and the noise of two pairs of feet
crossing the hall.

It was now quite dark, but so bold
were the intruders that they conversed
openly, and Maude recognized the
voices of the painters, and a faintness
seized her as she thought how utterly
she had disbelieved the stranger's story.

But without thinking of the extreme
docility of her prisoner, she tried to be-
lieve him at least an accomplice. So
great was her terror at this moment,
that all else was forgotten.

She heard the horrible curses of
disappointment as the men ransacked
cabinets and bureaus, and even tore up
the beds.

"Git the gal up; she's hid the
stamps!" said one, with a fearful oath.
Passing within a foot of where the
trembling girl was hidden, they tramped
up the stairs.

"God help me—now or never!"
murmured the well-nigh paralyzed girl.
She darted through the open door,
and out into the highway; but scarcely
a dozen yards had she traversed, when
a shout of exultation from the upper
rooms told her she was discovered.

Down the steps she heard them
rush, heard their heavy boots as they
rattled over the gravel-walk, and even
their labored breathing reached her ear.

One backward glance. Two men
were rapidly gaining upon her, and as
she looked, a third. Ah! her prisoner
had escaped! She knew the tall form
and curling hair; and his long strides
brought him rapidly over the ground.

A glad and undefined sensation,
then the noise of shots mingled with
groans and curses, a deep earnest tone,
a strong firm hand upon her shoulder,
and an arm about her waist, and
then a blank.

"Do not be alarmed!" were the first
words which greeted her on her return
to consciousness; and the stranger, and

the impostor, bent over her tenderly,
sollicitously.

Maude struggled to a sitting posture,
and looked around.

She was upon a bench in the front
porch; the moon had risen and light-
ed up the scene. Two men, silent and
motionless, lay upon the ground at her
feet, while beside her, with its precious
contents intact, stood the basket.

"Are they dead?" she asked, looking
from the prostrate forms upon the ground
to the handsome face above her. "No;
only sullen," was his response.

There were still two long hours be-
fore Maude could expect her parents.
She could not look at the stranger whom
she had so ruthlessly ill-treated; she
could not bid him leave her. So be-
ing a brave girl, she impulsively begged
his pardon; and as she grasped his
hands, and saw the bruised and swollen
fingers, she pressed her lips to them,
and he was repaid.

"It served me right," said he, in his
explanation. "Uncle has had charge
of the farm so long, he begins to think
it his. I should have been more neigh-
borly."

But how did you get out?" asked
Maude, her curiosity overcoming her
embarrassment.

"I had some difficulty in removing
the bricks to make stepping-places,"
said he; "but when I heard the
wretches stamping and cursing, and
thought of you, I succeeded; notwith-
standing that box—"

"Oh, please, please—" begged
Maude.

And he kindly forbore concluding
the answer to her question.

The surprise of Papa and Mamma
Kennet can be imagined, and Herbert
Norris found himself to be the object of
an everlasting gratitude. He consented
to remain till morning and had the
pleasure of delivering the burglars up
to justice; and from that evening dated
his appreciation of country life.

At Christmas-time, Mrs. Kennet was
heard to remark that after all Herbert
proved to be the robber.

A TWO-FOLD MARRIAGE LAW.

What is the condition of things to-day
in America and in Massachusetts? What
is the condition of the law and public
sentiment on this great subject? There
is to any one who studies carefully
a most curious and most illogical
confusion in regard to the whole matter,
of marriage and divorce, and that con-
fusion arises from this curious fact: Both
the laws and public sentiment of Eng-
land and America to-day are the result
of two truly contradictory ideals. Our
common law, for example, is based on
the old Roman law which has come
down to us through England, and which
we have borrowed from the parent coun-
try.

Under the old Roman law, mar-
riage was simply a civil contract, entered
into voluntarily by a man and woman,
and recognized and protected by the
State; but it could be dissolved any
time by the mutual consent of the par-
ties entering into this contract, precisely
the same as any business contract which
you choose to enter upon—any business
co-partnership which lasts as long as
you please, and is dissolved by mutual
consent and agreement. Divorce under
this Roman law was not as common as
you might think. Parties were held to-
gether by ties which made them wish
to continue themselves; but there was
also a public sentiment in the older
and purer days, and it was carried so
far that the husband was severely pun-
ished at law on account of abusing his
privileges. Here is one part of our sen-
timent—the legal condition of the sub-
ject of marriage and divorce. The
other is canon law—the law of the
church, which forbids divorce in any
case whatever. This law has been dom-
inant throughout Europe and in every
country where the church has extended
its sway, and until the present century
the canon law was supreme in England,
and there was no possibility of divorce
except by special act of Parliament,
which, however, was guilty of the curi-
ous inconsistency of holding up the
state, church and ecclesiastical law of
marriage with one hand and permitting
escape from it with the other, and we
are in this curious condition now, though
the law is not supreme and marriage is
a civil contract. You take the laws upon
our statute books. Some carry the im-
plication that marriage is a sacrament;
some of them carry that it is only a civil
sacrament, and they talk of it as a di-
vine sacrament never to be annulled
except as God has implied. We are in
this illogical and contradictory position,
both in our law and public sentiment.—
[Rev. M. J. Savage.]

THE MAINE GUM SUPPLY.

It costs \$2,000 a year to keep Augusta
citizens in chewing gum. Young ladies,
especially those in school, are proverb-
ially gum chewers, and it takes no
small amount to keep them supplied.

A Frenchman from Horeb Falls was in
town the other day and marketed 125
pounds of the spruce article. One dreg-
ist took seventy-five pounds. It cost
in the neighborhood of \$1 a pound.

It was prime gum, white and free from
imperfections, was in lumps, and had
been carefully scraped and cleaned.

The man said that he had 200 pounds
of gum at home which he proposed to
market in Belfast. Gum from young
trees is the best, being of a lighter color
and of better flavor than that taken
from old trees which is of a darker
shade and has a rank taste. There
are men who make gum-gathering a
business, and derive a snug little in-
come from this source. But the forests
which grow this product are falling,
and the day is not far distant when
there will be a famine in genuine gum.

The lumberman is making enormous
inroads into the ranks of the trees, and
the spruce-worm has injured or killed
thousands.

BILL POSTING.

Men Who Have "Painted the Town" and
Country.

An English stage manager, in a pam-
phlet on advertising written about 1850,
asserted that the business of poster ad-
vertising, even then supposed to have
outgrown all reasonable proportions,
was yet but in its infancy; that the time
would come when every inch of blank
surface in this mundane sphere would
be devoted to the purpose of advertising.
Curiously enough, about the time this
prophecy was made a scheme was in-
augurated by a single individual on this
side of the water which was destined to
go a long way toward its fulfillment.

In the winter of 1849-50 a young sign-
painter, of Brooklyn, finding his busi-
ness very dull, assumed himself by go-
ing along the Harlem Road and painting
his name, occupation and business on
all the rocks and fences. Several
business men were struck with the idea
and employed the young man to blazon
advertisements for them in various lo-
calities. Soon after, securing a large
number of contracts for the work, he
traveled up the Missouri river, exercis-
ing his peculiar talents on the bare
crags of the Rocky Mountains. He
journeyed into Oregon and daubed his
pyramids, down the golden valley of
the Sac, over the granite cliffs of the
Sierra Nevada, and in the "liver pills,"
etc., to terrify the wandering
savage and buffalo. We are happy to
say he was shot at several times and
had to run to save his wretched hide.

He was pursued soon after by a rival as
fearless and unscrupulous as himself.
Finally, the two went into partnership
and between them transformed the
country into a vast bill-board. They
established their headquarters in New
York and undertook, at specified rates,
to advertise merchants, medicines, etc.,
in as few or many States as desired.

In 1880 the manager of this business—the
quondam Brooklyn sign-painter, now
a millionaire—declares that he and
his partner had traveled 1,500,000
miles, had painted 10,000 signs, and
used 500 barrels of linseed oil and
150 tons of white lead. This was be-
fore they were retired from active par-
ticipation in the manual part of the
business. They now have this work done
by their 1,800 agents, through whom
they can work the whole United States
on the bill-board plan. They charge
for billing a patent medicine in seven-
teen States \$30,000.—[Chicago Inter
Ocean.]

ROUGH ON THE LANDLADY.

The prejudice against the average fe-
male boarding-house keeper seems to be
confined to no particular State.

Sam Hinchman and Bill Perkins were
discussing matters and things over a
cup of coffee in an Austin eating-house,
when the conversation drifted to a recent
occurrence in Philadelphia.

"Did you read about that Hungarian
Countess in a Philadelphia boarding-
house who shot and wounded the boy
who told her to put out the gas, and who
fired several shots at the landlady and
missed her?" asked Sam.

"Yes, I read all about that. That
woman should be made an example of.
She should receive the heaviest penalty
of the law," responded Bill.

"I agree with you precisely. There
is no punishment severe enough for that
kind of woman who would shoot a mere
boy for doing simply what he is told to
do."

"Oh, as far as that is concerned, I
don't blame her at all for shooting the
boy. If that was all she done I wouldn't
think hard of her; but to shoot three
times at the landlady of a boarding-
house, and miss her every time is a
crime against humanity. I've lived
and suffered in a boarding-house, and I
know what kind of a fiend I'm talking
about. A woman who can't shoot better
than that Hungarian Countess did ought
not to be allowed to have a pistol. If
she had only crippled up the landlady
I would not mind so much; but to
miss her entirely is simply infamous.
There are no mitigating circumstances.
She is not a woman at all; she is a base
imposition on the public."—[Texas
Siftings.]

HONESTY REWARDED.

George came running in the house one
day, sobbing as if his heart would
break.

"Why, George?" exclaimed his mam-
ma, starting up in alarm, "whatever is
the matter?" [Note—She said, "what
is the matter?" but she would have said
"whatever" had she known that her
words would be seen in print.]

"I have done a naughty, mean
thing," cried George, his tears breaking
out afresh.

"There, dear, don't cry! Tell it all
to mamma."

Thus urged, the little fellow told his
story, with downcast eyes and many a
mighty sob.

He had found a pocketbook with ever
and ever so much money in it. It had
a name which showed him that it be-
longed to Mr. Souless, the rich mer-
chant, who lived five miles out of town.
George had walked out to Mr. Souless'
place and found the owner in a state
bordering on distraction. He had lost
his pocketbook, with nearly a thousand
dollars in it. Said George—

"When I gave him the pocketbook he
was so glad! He didn't notice me at
first, but after counting the money and
finding that none was missing he said I
was an honest boy, and handed me a
five cent piece, telling me to keep that
for my honesty."

"And oh